

Communications Summary

Changes to the inclusion document have been proposed. These proposals will be open for comments, so you will have an opportunity to provide suggestions/recommendations. (See 2 attachments)

Also of interest to you in the SCAAC discussions is Rhonda Sims shared that the field was asking for a movement of one of the two test windows for the alternate assessment. It was recommended that the January-February test window be moved to the fall semester. SCAAC concurred.

Special KDE Email, June 28, 2013 (in place of Fast Five)

1. Superintendents' Summit scheduled for Sept 5 in Frankfort. Topics will include KSBIT, meeting delivery targets and budget. Only Superintendents or their designee are invited.
2. "Promoting Positive Behavior in Schools" - web-based option for the training required by the Seclusion Restraint reg. includes 4 modules and may be found at www.ket.pbslearningmedia.org.
3. There are now 96 \$10K grants available to districts that adopt a policy raising the compulsory school age to 18.
4. A letter was sent to superintendents and board chairs from Governor and First Lady Beshear about "Blitz to 96" which encourages 96 schools to adopt policies increasing the compulsory school age to 18. When 96 districts (55%) adopt that policy, the law becomes mandatory for all districts within four years (the letter incorrectly said that districts had only two years to adopt the policy).

Monday Superintendent Email – 6/24/13

1. Education bills that passed the 2013 regular session took effect June 25. A recap of the bills is available. One of those bills, SB8/HB354, requires schools and districts to include community first responders in their emergency plans. A set of assurances will be monitored through ASSIST. A Lync session will be available starting July 9 at 2:00 EST.
2. ARRA jobs report is due today, July 5.
3. 2013-14 SEEK calculation has been updated due to KDE internal data corrections in the transportation calculation and the Exceptional Child count.
4. Most of the 2012-13 audit contracts have been approved.
5. Qualified Zone Academy Bonds are available now for renovation projects in qualified districts.
6. School Facilities Construction Commission reporting period is due in odd-numbered fiscal years and journal entries must be correct.

7. KSBIT recently released updated assessment estimates. Two options are currently being considered. A decision will have to be made by districts later this year. KDE is closely monitoring the situation.

Fast Five on Friday, Week of June 17, 2013

1. USED has offered additional flexibility to states that have ESEA waivers. One is related to testing and does not apply to KY because we have already implemented our new assessment aligned to CCR standards. The second is allowing a delay in implementation of the teacher and principal evaluation system. The system is due to be fully implemented in all districts in 2014-15 but this will allow a one-year extension in the requirement to use the system for accountability and personnel decisions.
2. KDE appeared before the Education Assessment and Accountability Review Subcommittee. The commissioner's opening statement and power point are available.

Doc H's Blog, June 21, 2013

Dr. Holliday summarized the National Council for Teacher Quality report on the quality of teacher preparation programs. Specific facets of teacher prep programs are given a 1 to 4 star rating. You can search the site and see the results for IHEs in Kentucky.

<http://www.nctq.org/teacherPrepHome.do>.

Other News:

1. Tommy Floyd, former superintendent of Madison Co., became Dr. H's chief of staff on July 1.
2. KDE is continuing to upgrade the telephone system to Voice over Internet Protocol. As that occurs, they will no longer be able to transfer calls from the current system to the VoIP system. 18th floor is scheduled to be upgraded on Sept. 5.
3. While the dates are tentative and depend on the receipt of data from vendors, OAA asks DACs to place these dates on your calendar:
 - Individual student data released first in PearsonAccess.
 - August 2 K-PREP individual test scores (NAPD) (all subjects grades 3-8, writing at grades 10-11)
 - August 16 Individual student reports with student growth percentile
 - Note: EOC individual scores already reported.

- Schools and districts will have opportunity to review student data for accountability and demographics before public reporting.
- August 14-27 Data review and cleanup in SDRR
- September 12 DAC training and Quality Control day for system issues
- Week of September 23-27 Public release of accountability reports via the School Report Card